

This includes the dropping of warning pamphlets in advance of Israeli missions in civilian areas.

It also includes the use of advanced weaponry that targets a military objective without harming civilians or civilian infrastructure.

But we must be honest. When engaged in armed conflict it is difficult to ensure the safety of civilians.

In fact, Hezbollah and Hamas purposefully operate in populated areas, often putting civilians between heavily armed terrorists and the Israeli military.

The effects of this type of warfare is also painful to Israel.

As Golda Meir so poignantly stated, "When peace comes we will perhaps in time be able to forgive Arabs for killing our sons, but it will be harder for us to forgive them for having forced us to kill their sons."

As dire as events on the ground appear, there is room for U.S. leadership. The question now is what form that leadership should take.

The administration must swiftly do what it can to create conditions in the region that will open the doors to diplomacy.

This Congress expects the President to work toward achieving this goal. Once more favorable conditions are created, it should be the administration's priority to dispatch our senior diplomatic leaders, led by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to the region as soon as possible.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this resolution.

CONDEMNING THE RECENT ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 921, which, among other things, condemns the recent attacks against the State of Israel, expresses the House of Representatives' condolences to all families of innocent victims of recent violence, and holds terrorists and their state-sponsors accountable for such attacks.

On June 25, 2006, the terrorist group Hezbollah disrupted peaceful relations between Israel and Lebanon by crossing Israel's internationally recognized borders and abducting two Israeli soldiers. Let me say upfront that I know from meeting with Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora that the Lebanese government is not able to control Hezbollah. However, this incursion provoked Israel to take action to retrieve its two nationals, a response U.S. citizens would fully expect of their own government were it in the same situation. Unfortunately, escalating violence has led to the death of innocent civilians in both Israel and Lebanon.

While pundits have voiced concerns over how "measured" Israel's response was in this case, we must remember that this situation just scratches the surface of a deeply rooted conflict between Israel and a number of terrorist groups such as Hezbollah, Hamas, etc. Since Israel withdrew from Southern Lebanon

back in 2000, Hezbollah has terrorized and ravaged Israel's northern border.

Many have also called for a cease-fire. Rest assured, I welcome the cessation of all hostility, but am concerned about whether a conventional "cease-fire" is appropriate when dealing with a terrorist group that openly fires upon civilian populations. I believe that Israel, on the other hand, exercised due diligence in specifically targeting Hezbollah. However, even though many civilians have died in Lebanon, we must remember this task is extremely difficult to execute because Hezbollah hides among Lebanon's civilian population. Hezbollah is cleverly aware that this makes it extremely difficult for Israel to target it. Moreover, at the bitter cost of innocent Lebanese lives, it rejoices at the public torment that Israel receives.

There is no easy solution to this situation. However, our primary concern at this point ought to be to evacuate all U.S. citizens who wish to leave Lebanon as quickly and safely as possible. I have been personally working with a number of my constituents who have family in Lebanon to ensure their safe return back home. I ask the American people to stand in solidarity with all the families who have lost loved ones in this conflict.

Madam Speaker, in closing it is truly sad that in this day and age a terrorist group like Hezbollah does not hesitate to point their weapons at innocent civilians. We must continue to support the return of Israel's kidnapped soldiers and push for a cessation of all hostility in any way that we can. I urge an aye vote on H. Res. 921.

CONDEMNING THE RECENT ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and I rise in support of our friend and ally, Israel, during this critical period.

September 11th was a defining moment for our country in many ways. In particular, it forced Americans to confront a new reality—that terrorists could cause massive destruction on our soil and that we are all at risk. Faced with this new reality, we resolved to fight—to go to Afghanistan with the aim of destroying al-Qaeda and removing the government that sheltered it.

Israelis have been living with this reality for decades. Well-armed, well-financed and sophisticated terrorist organizations—backed by Syria and Iran—surround her. Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and Hezbollah have carried out thousands of attacks on Israeli soil. They have strapped bombs to teenagers and sent them on suicide missions targeting buses filled with innocent women and children. They have launched rockets at Israeli homes and stores. And, they have murdered and kidnapped Israeli soldiers. They will stop at nothing to accomplish their one common goal: the destruction of Israel.

Just as America does, Israel has a right to defend herself. Israel has a right to better se-

cure its borders, its security and its future. A secure Israel can not exist with Hezbollah controlling the territory directly north of the country. A secure Israel can not exist with thousands of katyusha rockets aimed at Haifa, Tiberius and other population centers in the North. A secure Israel can not exist with Hamas in control of the Palestinian territories.

Israel is at war with these terrorist entities and we must stand by her. We have a moral obligation to do so—to stand on the side of democracy and freedom versus terror and radicalism. We must also do so because left unchecked, these terrorist organizations will continue to destabilize the region and use it as a base to foster global instability and undermine our national security.

As the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, I will never forget what can result when the world fails to confront evil and terror. Passage of this resolution with strong bipartisan support will send an unequivocal message to the world—Hezbollah and Hamas are responsible for this violence, Israel has a right to defend itself, and the United States will stand with Israel as it confronts the evil and terror of Hezbollah and Hamas. I am confident that Israel will prevail in this fight. And, it is my hope that their strong actions against terror will ultimately lead to the peace and security that so many in the region desperately seek.

SCHOMBURG CENTER HOSTS A SUMMIT FOR HIP-HOP ACTIVISM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an article from the Volume 6 Edition of *Africana Heritage* magazine which highlights an event hosted by Dr. Cornel West celebrating the music genre of Hip-Hop. This panel based event, held on Monday, April 24th, 2006, was titled "A Hip-Hop Revolution?" and it featured expert panelists from the academia, entertainment, and publishing spheres who gathered to address the issue of whether Hip-Hop music had the capability to serve as a tool for revolution.

This event formed part of a four-program series, the "Leadership Forum Series: Higher Pursuits" taking place at the Schomburg Museum in Harlem, New York. This particular event that focused on the potential of Hip-Hop to serve as an instrument for social movement shed some light on contemporary perspectives on the evolution of Hip-Hop from a subgroup of African American music born to the New York borough of the Bronx, to one of the most popular genres of music around the world.

To some panelists, the answer to this question was positive. Writer Greg Tate held that Hip-Hop was just a manifestation of black people's way to transform their world. To him, Hip-Hop embodied a culture that produced leaders and prophets "to get us through the next plateau of our struggles." On the other hand, Dr. Imani Perry, associate professor at Rutgers Law School, submitted that "Hip-Hop doesn't exist as a viable social movement, but its music generates courage."

Whatever the case may be, facilitator Dr. West concluded and all the panelists agreed that Hip-Hop may perhaps offer the "sound-track" for a movement. However, one should

not look to it for a “blueprint” for a revolution when there is a great exemplar from the African-American and African Diasporan history.

[From the *Africana Heritage*, Apr. 24, 2006]

CORNEL WEST AND PANEL TALK HIP-HOP
ACTIVISM

On Monday, April 24, 2006 the Schomburg Center held the third of four programs in its Leadership Forum Series: Higher Pursuits hosted and moderated by Dr. Cornel West. The focus of the discussion was “A Hip-Hop Revolution?” and featured guest panelists Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, Assistant Professor of Urban Education at Temple University; Dr. Imani Perry, Associate Professor at Rutgers Law School and author of *Prophets of the Hood: Politics and Poetics in Hip-Hop*; Carlito Rodriguez, Producer Consultant at BET News and former Editor-in-Chief of *The Source* magazine; Akiba Solomon, Senior Editor at *Vibe* and Co-Editor of *Naked: Black Women Bare All About Their Skin, Hair, Hips, Lips, and Other Body Parts*; and Greg Tate, author of *Everything But the Burden: What White People are Taking from Black Culture and long-time contributor to the Village Voice*.

Dr. West gave each of the panelists time to address the issue of whether Hip-Hop music has any revolutionary potential. According to Carlito Rodriguez, people often have a very romantic view about Hip-Hop and its influence, but he reminded the audience that he grew up in the Bronx during the music's toddler years and everything about the culture wasn't necessarily a good thing. “I don't subscribe to the revisionist history that everybody and everything in Hip-Hop was positive. It began with acts like Run-DMC who went from looking like Parliament Funkadelic to [wearing] street gear. It soon became ‘I want that chain, that car’ and somewhere along the line, that became the norm. I think someone has to make music that caters to me—grown man rap.” Rodriguez emphasized that the lyrics today don't really address the many issues he faces as a man in his late 30s.

Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, who is currently working on several book projects regarding Hip-Hop culture, made a very important distinction. “The question mark at the end of ‘A Hip-Hop Revolution?’ is so critical. Is Hip-Hop a revolutionary form, born out of resistance? Yes. Is it in content? I'm not sure.” Dr. Hill added, “When someone looks at a rapper like Lil' Kim as a feminist role model, there is a [disconnect] with the message of Hip-Hop not engaging listeners in the day-to-day politics of the ‘hood.’”

Writer Greg Tate was more optimistic on what the future could bring as far as leadership. “I know it has never really been about Hip-Hop; it has always been [about] black people's way to transform their world,” explains Tate. “The culture spits [out] the prophets, the leaders, to get us through the

next plateau of our struggles. The future of Hip-Hop is in a maternity ward somewhere. The answer to the crisis is a voice we haven't heard before, but because we can imagine it, it probably exists.”

Dr. Imani Perry believes that a community-based approach seems more realistic than a creative one. “Hip-Hop doesn't exist as a viable social movement, but its music generates courage. I am more interested in the community providing a social justice movement.” Editor and journalist Akiba Solomon put things rather bluntly: “my short answer to the question [about Hip-Hop being revolutionary] is ‘no.’ I've gone through a lot with Hip-Hop; I compare it to an abusive marriage. Every time it punches me in my face—it gives me gifts. Hip-Hop has been used as a euphemism for different things. It's important that we define what we're talking about and whom we're talking about. My mid-80s view is that I think we are talking about predominately black and Latino youth who come from a certain class or struggle. But I think a major piece that is missing is that you cannot have an art form have any social change potential when it objectifies or minimizes half the population.”

Dr. West offered closing thoughts: “Latinos and blacks have so many resources, but they still don't have total control of it. Hip-Hop is a global phenomenon and it has a different context in other countries like Bolivia and Colombia.” Unlike those countries, Hip-Hop here in the United States can often be more degrading than it is uplifting. But one thing that all the panelists, Dr. West included, agreed on is that society's ills will not be changed by a song or a performer, but by small pockets of people doing their best to make a difference. And while Hip-Hop can sometimes provide the soundtrack to a movement, no one should look to it for a blueprint, when there is so much more from African-American and African Diasporan history that could provide that sort of guidance.

“YES” TO STEM CELL RESEARCH

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago, President Bush said that stem cell research raised “profound ethical questions.” There is no more profound or ethical question than the fate of 100 million American lives. Lives that can be saved, and lives that will be lost if we don't move forward with this vital research.

This Congress sent the White House a bipartisan bill that ethically advances stem cell

research—a practice supported by over 70 percent of Americans. Stem cell research may one day provide a cure for Alzheimer's, juvenile diabetes, Lou Gehrig's disease, and spinal cord injuries.

The promise of this research is enormous, but regrettably, the President used his first veto to deny hope to millions of Americans whose lives could be improved by stem cell research. The answer to this profound ethical question is clear—yes to stem cell research would mean yes to saving lives.

32ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 32nd anniversary of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus. Although this event took place 32 years ago, the situation is still one that demands attention and strong intervention today.

In 1974 Turkish military forces invaded the Greek island of Cyprus thereby disrupting the lives of its citizens. In two waves, Turkey was able to seize control of more than one-third of the Island by labeling the invasion as a “peace keeping operation.” As a result, Northern Cyprus was divided by a 113 mile barbed fence, which thereby prevented Cypriots from visiting areas and communities within their country.

Turkish presence on the island of Cyprus is in clear violation of repeated U.N. Security Council Resolutions. There are currently 35,000 Turkish troops illegally stationed in Cyprus as it continues to remain one of the most militarized areas in the world. As a result of the invasion over 250,000 Greek Cypriots were subject to ethnic cleansing in Northern Cyprus.

I would like to commend Congressman BILIRAKIS and Congresswoman MALONEY for bringing this issue to a forefront in Congress. I sincerely hope that we will see a better day when the people of Cyprus who have been disenfranchised will receive proper treatment and regard.

Again, I want to express my support for the true government of Cyprus, and I urge the United States government, the European Union and the United Nations to continue efforts in finding a solution to this unfortunate predicament.